

MILWAUKEE EVICTION COURT STUDY

Section A: Current Residence

A1a. During this interview please think about the place where you received the eviction notice.

A1. How many bedrooms are in this place?

NUMBER OF BEDROOMS: _____
R IS RENTING A ROOM
DON'T KNOW
REFUSED

A2. How often is the rent for this place due: once a week, once a month, or some other way?

ONCE A WEEK [GO TO A4]
ONCE A MONTH [GO TO A4]
SOME OTHER WAY [GO TO A3]
DON'T KNOW [GO TO A4]
REFUSED [GO TO A4]

A3. Please tell me more about how often the rent for this place is due?

DON'T KNOW
REFUSED

A4. What is the total rent you and other people living with you pay each [TIME PERIOD FROM A2]?

INTERVIEWER: DO NOT INCLUDE AMOUNT OF RENT ASSISTANCE, IF APPLICABLE

\$ _____
DON'T KNOW
REFUSED

A5. Is the federal, state, or local government helping to pay your rent, for example, through the rent assistance program?

YES
NO
DON'T KNOW
REFUSED

Section B: Adult Roster

B1. Thank you. The next questions are about adults that live or stay with you. Sometimes, people live or stay at a place and the landlord knows about them. Other times, people live or stay at a place and the landlord doesn't know about them. I'm interested in ALL adults that live or stay with you."

Do any adults over the age of 18 currently live or stay with you?

YES
NO [GO TO SECT. C]
DON'T KNOW [GO TO SECT. C]
REFUSED [GO TO SECT. C]

B2. How many adults currently live or stay with you?

NUMBER: _____
DON'T KNOW
REFUSED

B3a1. [IF ONLY ONE OTHER ADULT LIVING THERE] I'd like to ask a few questions about him or her.

B3a2. [IF MORE THAN ONE OTHER ADULT LIVING THERE] I'd like to ask a few questions about each of them, starting with the oldest and moving to the youngest. Think of the oldest adult living or staying with you now.

B4a. Is this adult a man or a woman?

MAN
WOMAN
DON'T KNOW
REFUSED

B5a. What is his or her relationship to you? [CIRCLE ONLY ONE]

INTERVIEWER: IF RESPONDENT SAYS "FRIEND", ASK: "Is that a (boy/girl)friend?"

SPOUSE
BOYFRIEND OR GIRLFRIEND
ROOMMATE
FRIEND
CHILD
CHILD'S BOYFRIEND OR GIRLDFRIEND
CHILD'S FRIEND
PARENT
SIBLING
AUNT OR UNCLE
GRANDPARENT
NIECE OR NEPHEW
COUSIN
OTHER: _____
DON'T KNOW
REFUSED

B6a. What is his or her race?

INTERVIEWER: MARK ALL MENTIONS BY THE RESPONDENT. IF THE RESPONDENT SAYS "MIXED RACE," FOLLOW-UP WITH: "I can circle more than one race if you like."

WHITE
BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN
HISPANIC
ASIAN
AMERICAN INDIAN OR ALASKA NATIVE
NATIVE HAWAIIAN OR OTHER PACIFIC ISL.
OTHER: SPECIFY _____
DON'T KNOW
REFUSED

B7a. Is this adult's name also listed on your eviction notice?

YES
NO
DON'T KNOW
REFUSED

B8a. How old is he/she?

AGE: _____
DON'T KNOW
REFUSED

[Section B was repeated for all adults in the household]

Section C: Children

C1. Do any children under the age of 18 live or stay with you?

INTERVIEWER: INCLUDE ALL CHILDREN, EVEN THOSE NOT LEGALLY OR BIOLOGICALLY RELATED TO R.

YES
NO [GO TO SECTION D]
DON'T KNOW [GO TO SECTION D]
REFUSED [GO TO SECTION D]

C2. How many children currently live or stay with you?

NUMBER: _____
DON'T KNOW
REFUSED

C3. Could you please tell me the ages of each of the [AMOUNT IN C2] children that live or stay with you?

1. Age: _____ DK/ REF 5. Age: _____ DK/ REF
2. Age: _____ DK/ REF 6. Age: _____ DK/ REF
3. Age: _____ DK/ REF 7. Age: _____ DK/ REF
4. Age: _____ DK/ REF 8. Age: _____ DK/ REF

Section D: Eviction Hearing

D1. I now have a few questions about your eviction notice. I'd like to know what it lists as the reasons for eviction. To save us time, I'd simply like to scan your eviction notice, your pink paper. Even though the notice is a public record, only the researcher in charge of this study will see this scan, and he has designed this study to ensure your confidentiality. Your name will never be used in a publication. If this is okay with you, may I quickly scan your eviction notice?

YES: SCAN DOCUMENT [GO TO D4]
NO [GO TO D2]
DON'T KNOW [GO TO D2]
REFUSED [GO TO D2]

D2. May I look at your notice and quickly write down what it lists for the reasons for the evictions?

YES [GO TO D3]
NO [GO TO D5]
DON'T KNOW [GO TO D5]
REFUSED [GO TO D5]

D3. INTERVIEWER: RECORD DOCUMENT: THE PERTINENT INFORMATION IS UNDER THE HEADING "COMPLAINT": ITEMS 1 AND 2 ON PAGE 1. VERIFY THIS INFORMATION WITH THAT UNDER THE HEADING "FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION" ON PAGE 2.

CIRCLE "YES" OR "NO" FOR EACH OPTION

NOTE THAT "COMMITTED WASTE" MEANS PROPERTY DAMAGE

	YES	NO
a. Nonpayment of rent/other charges: Amount \$ _____	1	2
b. Property damage	1	2
c. Unauthorized persons	1	2
d. Criminal activity	1	2
e. Landlord received "drug house" letter from police	1	2
f. Landlord received nuisance property citation letter from police	1	2
g. 28-day notice without cause	1	2
h. Other: _____	1	2

D4. Thank you. In addition to the reasons listed on your eviction notice, did your landlord give you an eviction notice because she or he received a nuisance property or drug activity letter from the Police Department?

- YES [GO TO D6]
- NO [GO TO D6]
- DON'T KNOW [GO TO D6]
- REFUSED [GO TO D6]

D5. I'm going to list some common reasons why people are served an eviction notice. Please tell me whether or not each of these reasons applies to you.

INTERVIEWER: CIRCLE "YES" OR "NO" FOR EACH OPTION

	YES	NO	DKK	REF
a. I owed the landlord money: [IF YES] How much? \$ _____	1	2	8	9
b. I, or someone who lives with me, was accused of violating the lease in some way.	1	2	8	9

c. My landlord received a nuisance property or drug activity letter from the Police Department.	1	2	8	9
d. I received a 28-day eviction notice, but I didn't owe the landlord money and I didn't violate the lease.	1	2	8	9
e. Other: _____ _____ _____	1	2	8	9

D6. What was the outcome of your eviction hearing?

INTERVIEWER: CIRCLE ONLY ONE.

I WAS EVICTED AND TOLD TO VACATE THE PREMISES BY A CERTAIN DATE [GO TO D7]	1
MY LANDLORD AND I WORKED OUT A STIPULATION AGREEMENT THAT ALLOWS ME TO STAY IN THE APARTMENT. [GO TO SECTION E]	2
MY LANDLORD AND I HAVE TO COME BACK AND SEE THE JUDGE ON A LATER DATE [GO TO SECTION E]	3
MY CASE WAS DISMISSED [GO TO SECTION E]	4
OTHER _____ _____ [GO TO SECTION E]	5

D7. Where are you planning on staying immediately after you have to leave?

INTERVIEWER: CIRCLE ONLY ONE. IF RESPONDENT NAMES SEVERAL POSSIBILITIES, CIRCLE "DON'T KNOW."

- WITH A FRIEND
- WITH A FAMILY MEMBER
- WITH A BOYFRIEND / GIRLFRIEND
- AT A HOMELESS SHELTER
- OTHER _____
- DON'T KNOW
- REFUSED

Section E: Demographics

E1. The last set of questions is about you. How old are you?

AGE: _____
DON'T KNOW
REFUSED

E2. Are you Hispanic?

YES
NO
DON'T KNOW
REFUSED

E3. What is your race?

INTERVIEWER: MARK ALL MENTIONS BY THE
RESPONDENT. IF THE RESPONDENT SAYS
"MIXED RACE" FOLLOW-UP WITH:
"I can circle more than one race if you like."

WHITE
BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN
HISPANIC
ASIAN
AMERICAN INDIAN OR ALASKA NATIVE
NATIVE HAWAIIAN OR OTHER PACIFIC ISL
OTHER: SPECIFY _____
DON'T KNOW
REFUSED

E4. What is the total monthly income of your household?
This amount includes the income you take home after taxes
and the income other adults that live with you take home
after taxes.

AMOUNT \$ _____

DON'T KNOW
REFUSED

E5. INTERVIEWER: SELECT R'S GENDER.

MALE
FEMALE
DON'T KNOW
REFUSED

Those are all of the questions that I have. Thank you very
much for your time!

The Milwaukee Eviction Court Study was designed by Matthew Desmond, Principal Investigator (Department of Sociology, Harvard University) and conducted by the University of Wisconsin Survey Center.